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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/667,500	09/23/2003	Chung-hum Baik	45340	1919
7590 03/24/2005 Roylance Abrams Berdo & Goodman 6th Floor 1300 19th Street, NW Washington, DC 20036			EXAMINER DAVIS, DAVID DONALD	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2652	

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/667,500

Applicant(s)

BAIK ET AL.

Examiner

David D. Davis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/25/04 & 2/14/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Receipt is acknowledged of the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) received March 25, 2004 and February 14, 2005.

Drawings

3. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

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5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-3, 7-11 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kazama et al (US 4,875,110). As per claims 1 and 9, Kazama et al shows in figure 1 a head 8 drum assembly for a tape player/recorder including a rotary drum 75, which rotatably supports a magnetic head 8 for recording and reproducing information by scanning a running magnetic tape. Figure 1 of Kazama et al also shows in figure 1 a fixed drum 3 press-fitted onto the lower part of a shaft 1 engaged in a central axial bore of the rotary drum 75 parallel to the rotary drum 75. Figure 1 of Kazama et al additionally shows a motor stator provided in the fixed drum 3, and a motor rotor provided opposite to the motor stator. The motor rotor is connected to the rotary drum 75. A rotor case 19, as further shown in figure 1 of Kazama et al, of the motor rotor is directly bonded to an outer circumferential surface of the rotary drum 75.

As per claims 2 and 10, Kazama et al shows in figure 1 the motor stator including a magnetic yoke 22 and a stator coil 21 such that a substantially constant first gap is maintained between the magnetic yoke 22 and stator coil 21. As per claims 3 and 11, Kazama et al shows in figure 1 a substantially constant second gap is maintained between the motor rotor and motor stator. As per claims 7 and 15, Kazama et al shows in figure 1 a rotor magnet 18 with a magnetizing force of the rotor magnet 18 is controlled. As per claims 8 and 16, Kazama et al shows in figure 1 that the magnetic force of the rotor magnet 18 is controlled to be lower than a conventional motor stator.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claims 4-6 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazama et al (US 4,875,110). Kazama et al discloses the claimed invention. See description supra. However, Kazama et al is silent as to the substantially constant second gap being in the range of 0.3 mm to 0.4 mm such as 0.36 mm and the substantially constant first gap is within the range of 0 to 0.03 mm.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to specify the distance of gaps in the head drum assembly of Kazama et al. The rationale is as follows: the purpose of the gaps is to allow rotation of the head drum assembly. The gaps in the head drum assembly need not be in the range of 0.3 mm to 0.4 mm

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(i.e. 0.36 mm) or 0 to 0.03 mm. Realizing this, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to specify that the gaps were in the range of 0.3 mm to 0.4 mm (i.e. 0.36 mm) or 0 to 0.03 mm, which is well within the purview of a skilled artisan and absent an unobvious result, so as to effectively optimize the distance in the gaps so as to provide the best rotational values for the head drum assembly.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David D. Davis whose telephone number is 571-272-7572. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday between 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


David D. Davis
Primary Examiner
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